Directive 98/70/EC

- Directive 98/70/EC: Comprehensive set of petrol
 & diesel environmental specifications
 - From 1 January 2000:
 - Leaded petrol banned
 - Sulphur in petrol 150 ppm,
 - Benzene in petrol < 1%; Aromatics < 42%
 - Sulphur in diesel < 350 ppm
 - From 1 January 2005
 - Sulphur content of petrol & diesel < 50 ppm
 - Aromatics in petrol < 35%

Directive 2003/17/EC

- "Sulphur-free" fuels (less than 10 ppm)
 - Phased Introduction from 1 January 2005
 - Complete switch no later 1 January 2009 to
 be confirmed in the case of diesel
- No change to non-sulphur parameters
 - Except those already decided for 2005 (aromatics in gasoline)
- Fuel quality monitoring
 - Reference to new CEN standard
 - Guidance on "availability on an appropriately balanced geographical basis"

In addition

Decision 2002/159/EC: "common format for the submission of summaries of national fuel quality data"

Specifies how data should be presented to the Commission.
 (Collected data is published annually see http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/air/fuel_quality_monitoring.htm

Recommendation 2005/27/EC: "on what for the purposes of Directive 98/70 constitutes availability of fuel with maximum sulphur content on an appropriately balanced geographical basis"

Main requirements of 98/70 as amended

- Prohibit the marketing of leaded petrol (Art. 3.1, subject to Art. 3.7)
- Permit marketing only of unleaded petrol meeting requirements of Art. 3
- Permit marketing only of diesel fuel meeting requirements of Art. 4
- Permit marketing only of gas oils intended for non-road mobile machinery and agricultural and forestry tractors meeting requirements of Art. 4(5)
- Establish a system to cover exceptional circumstances (Art. 7)
- Establish an effective enforcement system (including penalties) Art 9a
- Establish a system for monitoring compliance with Art 3 and 4 (Art. 8)
- Establish a system to collect national fuel quality data (Art. 8)
- Ensure use of appropriate analytical methods (Art 10)

Exceptions/derogations 98/70 as amended

- Article 6 possible tighter specification in specific areas
 - To protect health or environment in identified areas
 - Must be requested in advance, be justified, proportional and not affect free movement.
- Article 7 change in supply of crude oils
 - 3 requirements:
 - Exceptional events
 - These lead to a sudden change in oil supply
 - This change makes it difficult for refineries in the Member State to respect specification
 - Commission may authorise higher limit values for max 6 months.